

Appl. No. 10/691,216
Amdt. dated April 28, 2008
Reply to Office Action of January 28, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 9, 10, 13, and 16 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A system for a licensee to control access to or distribution of software and/or data among a plurality of client nodes, the system comprising:

means for storing software and/or data that is to be made available to predetermined licensed client nodes, each client node of the plurality of client nodes being a data processing device for which access to specified software or data may be allowed if licensed, and for storing a list of identifiers for licensed client nodes, each identifier uniquely identifying one of the predetermined nodes, the presence of each identifier on the list authorizing the predetermined client node associated with the identifier to be allowed access to the software and/or data; and

a client application at each client node, the client application performing authentication taking place at the client node, authentication being accomplished by comparing the client identifier for the node against the list and allowing or rejecting that is configured to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is included on the list and allow access to the software and/or data by the client node at which the client application resides only if the identifier is included on the list based on evaluation by the client application at the client node as to whether the identifier of the client node appears in the list.

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2. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and the list of unique client identifiers is portable.
3. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and the list of unique client identifiers comprises a compact disc.
4. (currently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and the list of unique client identifiers comprises a floppy disc.
5. (original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client nodes are part of a communications network.
6. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the means for storing is provided in a shared information storage area of a server that can be remotely accessed by at least some or all of the client nodes.
7. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client application is operable to generate a unique identifier for the client node on which the client application resides and compare this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is on the list.
8. (previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the client executes a license management program which uses node specific data to generate the unique identifier.
9. (currently amended) A method for a licensee to control access to or distribution of software and/or data among a plurality of client nodes, the method comprising:

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storing in association with the software and/or data, a list of unique identifiers for licensed client nodes, each of which uniquely identifies one of the nodes authorized to be allowed access to the software and/or data;

identifying at each node whether a unique identifier for a particular node is included on the list; and

controlling the operation of each node so that ~~the node examines the list~~ is examined at each node and the unique identifier is compared against the list, verifies that the unique identifier for the node appears on the list, the node and loading, installation, or use of or installing or using the software and/or data is allowed or rejected based on the comparison at the client node of the only if the unique identifier for the node appears ~~on~~ against the list.

10. (currently amended) A program storage device, readable by a machine, having encoded thereon instructions executable by the machine for:

executing a license management program to establish a unique identifier associated with the machine executing the instructions;

reading a list of unique identifiers associated with specified software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of machines and establishing its associated machine as licensed for the specified software and/or data; and

controlling the operation of a client node comprising the machine executing the instructions so as to allow or reject access that by the machine accesses to the software and/or data only if the unique identifier for the client node appears on the based on a comparison taking

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place at the client node of the unique identifier for the client node against the list of unique identifiers.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) A program storage device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the instructions encoded thereon include instructions for generating the unique identifier using node specific data.

13. (currently amended) A data processing device serving as a client node comprising:

means for reading a list of unique identifiers associated with software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of client nodes or terminals licensed to use the software and/or data; and

means for controlling the operation of the data processing device so that the data processing device examines its own unique identifier and the list of unique identifiers and allows or rejects loading, installation, or use of ~~loads or installs or uses~~ the software and/or data ~~only if based on a comparison taking place at the data processing device of its own unique identifier is~~ ~~on~~ against the list of unique identifiers.

14. (previously presented) A data processing device as claimed in claim 13, further comprising:

means for generating a unique identifier for the node implemented by the data processing device and comparing this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is on the list and licensed.

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15. (previously presented) A data processing device as claimed in claim 14, wherein node specific data is used to generate the unique identifier.

16. (currently amended) A self-service terminal comprising:
means for reading a list of unique identifiers associated with software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of self-service terminals licensed to use the associated software and/or data; and
means for controlling the operation of the self-service terminal so that the self-service terminal examines a unique identifier associated with the self-service terminal and the list of unique identifiers and allows or rejects loading, installation, or use of loads or installs or uses the software and/or data based on a comparison taking place at the self-service terminal of the unique identifier of the self-service terminal only if a unique identifier associated with the self-service terminal appears on against the list of unique identifiers.

17. (previously presented) A self-service terminal as claimed in claim 16 further comprising:
means for generating a unique identifier for the self-service terminal and comparing this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for the self-service terminal appears on the list.

18. (previously presented) A self-service terminal as claimed in claim 17, wherein node specific data is used to generate the unique identifier.

19. (previously presented) The self-service terminal as claimed in claim 16, wherein the self-service terminal is an automated teller machine in a network comprising a plurality of

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automated teller machines operated by a common operator licensed to utilize the associated software and/or data.

20. (previously presented) The self-service terminal as claimed in claim 19, wherein the automated teller machine executes license management software to generate its associated identifier, and wherein said list of unique identifiers licensed to utilize the associated software and/or data is generated at a remote server which communicates with the automated teller machine over the network.